

6658 '01 JAN 24 P1:44  
January 18, 2001

U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1

Dear Sirs:

I am writing this letter in support of petition 98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals for the following reasons:

- Downed animals create a higher risk of bacterial contamination.
- Some of the downed animals may be afflicted with the "Mad Cow Disease", a disease linked to a fatal human illness (i.e. Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease). Use of the downed animals may increase the number of people affected by this fatal illness.
- Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of the animals slaughtered and prohibition of their marketing will not cause an undue economic hardship.
- Moving of downed animals requires use of inhumane means; pushing with tractors and dragging with chains will cause injuries, including broken bones and torn ligaments.

In view of the above, I urge you to grant this petition. Thank you for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely,

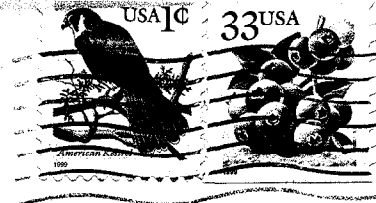


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